

transverse grooves delimiting respective shoulder blocks. Each continuous track terminates in a continuous lateral wall of the respective circumferential groove. The continuous lateral wall of at least one circumferential groove has a profile, in a radial plane, which is inclined more than a profile of a facing lateral wall of the respective circumferential groove. The central blocks are separated from each other by transverse grooves having a bottom wall with a shaped profile of variable depth.--

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel, without prejudice or disclaimer, claims 2-15, and add new claims 16-25, as follows:

--16. (new) A high-performance tyre for a motor vehicle, comprising a tread having an overall width and comprising first and second circumferential grooves;

wherein the circumferential grooves separate a central region from two lateral shoulder regions, wherein the central region comprises central blocks, and wherein the shoulder regions comprise shoulder blocks;

wherein a sum of widths of the lateral shoulder regions is less than or equal to 60% of the overall width, and wherein the width of each of the lateral shoulder regions is not less than 20% of the overall width;

wherein each of the circumferential grooves is adjacent, on a side further from the central region, to a respective continuous track from which branch transverse grooves delimiting respective shoulder blocks, wherein each continuous track terminates in a continuous lateral wall of the respective circumferential groove, and wherein the continuous lateral wall of at least one

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circumferential groove has a profile, in a radial plane, which is inclined more, with respect to a centerline axis of the respective circumferential groove, than a profile of a facing lateral wall of the respective circumferential groove; and

wherein the central blocks are separated from each other by transverse grooves having a bottom wall with a shaped profile of variable depth.

17. (new) The tyre of claim 16, wherein the continuous lateral wall of the at least one circumferential groove is inclined at an angle between about 14° and about 24° with respect to the centerline axis of the respective circumferential groove and comprises a first bottom radius between about 2 mm and about 5 mm, and wherein the facing lateral wall of the respective circumferential groove is inclined at an angle between about 3° and about 10° with respect to the centerline axis of the respective circumferential groove and comprises a second bottom radius between about 4 mm and about 7 mm.

18. (new) The tyre of claim 17, wherein the continuous lateral wall of the at least one circumferential groove is inclined at an angle of about 19° with respect to the centerline axis of the respective circumferential groove and comprises a first bottom radius of approximately 3.5 mm, and wherein the facing lateral wall of the respective circumferential groove is inclined at an angle of about 5° with respect to the centerline axis of the respective circumferential groove and comprises a second bottom radius of about 5 mm.

19. (new) The tyre of claim 16, wherein at least one of the shoulder blocks comprises a sipe which is approximately transverse with respect to an equatorial plane of the tyre.

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20. (new) The tyre of claim 16, wherein the central region comprises at least a first and a second circumferential row of central blocks, wherein the first and second circumferential row of central blocks is delimited by either the first or second circumferential groove and at least one other circumferential groove.

21. (new) The tyre of claim 20, wherein the central blocks are approximately rhomboid-shaped.

22. (new) The tyre of claim 20, wherein the central blocks are approximately cusp-shaped.

23. (new) The tyre of claim 16, wherein the central region comprises at least a first and a second circumferential row of central blocks and a third circumferential row of inner central blocks, wherein the third circumferential row of inner central blocks is adjacent to a first annular projection, wherein the first circumferential row of central blocks is delimited by the first circumferential groove and a third circumferential groove, wherein the second circumferential row of central blocks is delimited by the second circumferential groove and a fourth circumferential groove, and wherein the third circumferential row of inner central blocks and the first annular projection are delimited by the third circumferential groove and the fourth circumferential groove.

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